Leicester, Sund. Eves. Nov. 3/61.

Dear friend Garrison,

130 Mr. Garrison very kindly sent to me, to read, a recent letter you had received from Mrs. Eliza Pease Nichol. I had not a moment for reading it before leaving town, so I brought it along and have read it to Mrs. May, – to which I hope you will have no objection. I hope you may manage to get an hour to write to Mrs. Nichol soon. She, like others of our English friends, while perfectly straight and right upon the moral aspects & bearings of the question of Slavery, fail to apply that just discrimination to the movements of an entire people, made up of communities & individuals of every degree & shade of opinion on the subject of slavery, by which alone a true understanding of the position & meaning of our Northern States can be obtained. – A letter from you, both as to our own country and hers, would, I doubt not, do her much good. I return herewith her letter with many thanks for the pleasure I have had in reading it.

80B You will like to see a copy of

~~the~~ lithographed letter, and I accordingly send one, which being slightly blotted is hardly available for other use.— I have already addressed forty two letters, to go abroad, over half of which have gone, & the rest by next steamer. I have kept a list, which we will look over together some time. — I would suggest that the lithograph be not much seen, at present.—

I have followed you along in your tour with very great interest; and rejoice that your Penn^a. meeting seems to have been, in all respects, so useful and good a one.

Week before last Mr. Heywood came up from Lynn, and I had some conversation with him as to the agency, and told him that I thought of returning to the Office. He seemed a little surprised, I thought; and, when I was in Boston last week, said to me that he thought he ought to have three months' notice;

I told him I was perfectly willing to give any proper notice, but added that I had no recollection of any condition of that kind being made. He reminded me that he had, once or twice, last Spring, and Summer, requested me to let him know some time beforehand when I purposed returning to Office-work; — I do remember the request, tho' not any particular time being specified; nor did it make much impression on my mind, because I did not even then suppose that there was any obligation in the case; nor have I, indeed, at any time felt ~~like~~ at all equal to resuming the Office-duties until about the middle of August, from which time I appeared to be somewhat improving; but I should have waited longer than I did, to test the question of my returning strength, had not he (Heywood) been taken ill, about the middle of September, which seemed to make it my duty to repair to the Office at

once, and do the best I could in his absence, from illness. I did so, and with the exception of 5 days in New York have given myself pretty steadily, both here and at Boston, to Antisl: work; and having several irons in the fire (such as the "John Brown" Life, and the Annual box to England, with the "Reports" &c. &c.) must go again this week. — Still, I said to Heywood, without hesitation, that I should fall in with his proposition, which will postpone the time to Feb. 1st, — For I wd. not, on any account, have any trouble between H. and the Society. — The next day, however, I said this to him, further, — that I had been working 5 or 6 wks. pretty steadily for the Soc'y., (besides incurring $3. each week travelling expenses), and did not feel that I could, or should, do this without the usual compensation (deducting for my New York week), but that the Society ought not, I thought, to be charged twice over for that time. Of this he had, evidently, not thought; & said he wd. confer with the Comtee about it. Their decision will satisfy me, I am sure. This, if worth while, can be shown to any of the Comtee. I hope to be in Bost. on Wednesday. I am, Very truly Yrs. S. May Jr